



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

BRADLEY J. SCHLOZMAN

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT CEASEFIRE **10 MEN INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that 10 men from Independence, Mo., Reeds Spring, Mo., and Kansas City, Mo., were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate and unrelated cases, for illegally possessing firearms and ammunition. Today's indictments, Schlozman said, are part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

* **Danny J. Bardwell**, 37, of Independence, was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City. Today's indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint that was filed against **Bardwell** on March 22, 2006.

The federal indictment alleges that **Bardwell** was in possession of a Colt .45-caliber pistol on March 21, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Bardwell** has two criminal felony convictions for robbery and two criminal felony convictions for armed criminal action in Jackson County, Mo., as well as criminal felony convictions for burglary and stealing a motor vehicle in Pettis County, Mo.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, **Bardwell** was arrested on March 21, 2006, after attempting to flee on foot from police officers. Officers responded to an Independence residence at about 9:40 p.m., after the owner returned home to find that his house had been ransacked and he heard someone in the basement. When officers arrived, **Bardwell** exited through the rear basement door and attempted to flee. Officers found two pillow cases, filled with property from the home, lying next to the basement door. Among the contents of the pillow cases was the Colt .45-caliber pistol that belonged to the homeowner.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

Firearms and Explosives.

* **David M. LaBlance**, 20, of Kansas City, was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **LaBlance**, having been convicted of a felony, was in possession of a Hawes .22-caliber revolver on March 16, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Scott A. Modlin**, 25, of Reed Springs, was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Modlin**, having been convicted of a felony, was in possession of a Phoenix Arms .22-caliber rifle on Nov. 5, 2005. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the St. Joseph, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Brent C. Krouse**, 21, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with illegally possessing a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Krouse**, being an unlawful user of, or addicted to, marijuana, was in possession of a Smith & Wesson .40-caliber pistol on March 1, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who is an unlawful user of, or addicted to, a controlled substance to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rudolph R. Rhodes, IV. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Bobby E. Dady**, 26, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City. Today's indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint that was filed against **Dady** on March 20, 2006.

The federal indictment alleges that **Dady** was in possession of a Beretta .25-caliber pistol on March 18, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Dady** has criminal

felony convictions for assault and armed criminal action in Jackson County.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, **Dady** was arrested by an Independence, Mo., police officer on March 18, 2006, at which time the officer found the Beretta .25-caliber pistol in **Dady's** rear pants pocket.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelson. It was investigated by the Independence, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Maurice G. Clark**, 34, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Clark**, having been convicted of at least one felony, was in possession of an Intratec 9 mm pistol on Oct. 10, 2005. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelson. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Oscar Silva-Yanez**, 23, a citizen of Mexico residing in Kansas City, was charged with being an illegal alien in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Silva-Yanez**, an illegal alien from Mexico, was in possession of a Smith and Wesson .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol on March 13, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who is an illegal alien to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Stefan C. Hughes. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

* **Ivan H. Espinoza**, 29, a citizen of Mexico residing in Kansas City, Mo., was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Espinoza**, having been convicted of a felony, was in possession of an Intratec 9 mm pistol on Jan. 1, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Espinoza**, being an illegal alien, was in possession of the Intratec 9 mm pistol on Jan. 1, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who is an illegal alien to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Espinoza** illegally re-entered the United States after having been deported. According to the indictment, **Espinoza** was deported from the United States on Sept. 5, 2003, after being convicted for importing marijuana in the Western District of Texas.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Michael M. Smith**, 27, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Smith**, having been convicted of a felony, was in possession of a Remington 12-gauge shotgun on March 13, 2006. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce E. Clark. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Brian K. Savage**, 37, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of ammunition by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

The federal indictment alleges that **Savage**, having been convicted of at least one felony, was in possession of eight rounds of Winchester ammunition, one round of Peters ammunition, and six rounds of Remington ammunition on Nov. 21, 2005. Under federal law, Schlozman explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce E. Clark. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Schlozman cautioned that the charges contained in the indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html